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MEDIA BUREAU RECEIVES REQUEST BY ANALOG TELEVISION STATION IN THE LOWER 700 MHZ BAND TO CEASE ANALOG BROADCASTING, SURRENDER NTSC LICENSE, AND OPERATE AS A SINGLE CHANNEL, DIGITAL-ONLY TELEVISION STATION

In its Report and Order in GN Docket No. 01-74, the Commission adopted the reallocation of the 598-746 MHz Spectrum Band (television channels 52-59) from use by television broadcasters to new uses on a flexible basis. The Commission also stated that it would consider requests by incumbent broadcasters on channels 52-58 to voluntarily vacate their NTSC channels prior to the end of the DTV transition on a case-by-case basis.

The Media Bureau has received a request from Associated Christian Television System, Inc., the licensee of analog noncommercial educational television station WACX(TV), NTSC Channel 55, and permittee of digital television station WACX-DT, DTV Channel 40, Leesburg, Florida,³ for Commission authority to: (i) cease analog broadcasting on NTSC Channel 55 and surrender its license for the channel prior to the end of the DTV transition; and (ii) thereafter operate WACX-DT as a single channel, digital-only television station on DTV Channel 40. QUALCOMM Incorporated, which holds licenses for Channel 55 spectrum,⁴ supports this request, stating that approval would allow QUALCOMM's whollyowned subsidiary, MediaFLO USA, Inc. to operate on Channel 55 in the market without having to protect WACX(TV) on Channel 55.

This request is available for inspection at the Commission's Reference Center, 445 Twelfth Street, S.W., Room CY-A257, Washington, D.C. 20554, and may also be accessed on the FCC's website at www.fcc.gov/video/tv.html.

¹ See Reallocation and Service Rules for the 698-746 MHz Spectrum Band (Television Channels 52-59), GN Docket No. 01-74, 17 FCC Rcd 1022 (2002).

² *Id.* at 1095-96.

³ Facility ID 60018.

⁴ See Public Notice, Lower 700 MHz Band Auction Closes, DA 03-1978 (released June 18, 2003).

For further information, contact Joyce Bernstein of the Media Bureau, Video Division at (202) 418-1647.

By: Acting Chief, Media Bureau

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